



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

**NOV 09 2006**

Mr. Jacob Kuhn, Acting State Conservationist  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Kentucky State Office  
771 Corporate Drive  
Lexington, Kentucky 40503

Attention: Ms. Anita Arends

**SUBJECT:** Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Watershed Plan for Rockhouse  
Creek Watershed in Leslie County, Kentucky; CEQ Number 20060384

Dear Mr. Kuhn:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the referenced Final Environmental Impact Statement in accordance with its responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) evaluated alternative plans to protect the citizens from the dangers of flooding and to reduce flood damages to their homes, businesses, and community structures in the Rockhouse Creek watershed in Leslie County, Kentucky. The NRCS recommended plan consists of non-structural improvements within the 100-year floodplain of Rockhouse and Laurel Creeks to include: flood proofing of residential and commercial structures; voluntary buyouts; relocation of structures; and/or demolition and replacement of structures. The automated flood warning system would also be repaired.

On the basis of the benefits to the affected homeowners and the nominal adverse impacts to the natural environment, EPA has no objections to this project. We appreciate the opportunity to review the proposed actions. If we can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact Ben West of my staff at 404 562-9643.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Mueller", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Heinz J. Mueller, Chief  
NEPA Program Office  
Office of Policy and Management